

known species. The young bird, No. 130, resembles the old one generally in coloration, but has all the colours duller, the transverse barring of the lower surface much less conspicuous and altogether wanting on the breast, the white spots of the scapularies absent, those on the wing-coverts smaller, and those on the tertiaries also smaller, and tinged with rufous; the primaries also are less conspicuously banded with rufous.

"Nos. 126, 127, males. Eyes red, upper mandible dark, the lower with a slight red tinge, feet light brown. Stomach contained beetles, egg-shells, and small calcareous particles."

2. On a Collection of Birds from Abeokuta. By FRANCIS NICHOLSON, F.Z.S.

[Received December 20, 1877.]

(Plate X.)

I have lately received from my friend, Mr. Henry Robin, a small collection of birds made by him in the neighbourhood of Abeokuta. Although preserved in spirits, the birds arrived in very good condition, and have made fair specimens. On showing them to my friend Mr. R. Bowdler Sharpe, he strongly advised me to publish a short list of the species, inasmuch as we have never received any natural-history specimens from Abeokuta before. This collection also adds a species or two to the avifauna of Western Africa; and one bird appears to be new. I have deposited a series of the skins in the British Museum; and Mr. Sharpe has confirmed my identifications. I am indebted to him for a comparison of some of the more obscure species.

1. *SCOPS LEUCOTIS* (Temm.); Sharpe, Cat. B. ii. p. 97.

One specimen, which has apparently died in captivity. I am not aware of the occurrence of this species in West Africa below Senegal having been noted.

2. *MELÆNORNIS EDOLIOIDES* (Sw.); Sharpe, Cat. B. iii. p. 315.

One specimen, somewhat extending the range of this species in Western Africa.

3. *LANIUS SMITHII*, Fraser; Sharpe, Cat. Afr. B. p. 50. no. 478.

Two adults, and three young birds in changing plumage; all apparently males, with no red on the flanks.

4. *DRYOSCOPIUS GAMBENSIS* (Licht.); Sharpe, Cat. Afr. B. p. 48. no. 453.

One male specimen.

5. *DRYOSCOPIUS MAJOR*, Hartl.; Sharpe, Cat. Afr. B. p. 47. no. 450.

An adult specimen.



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6. *BUTALIS GRISOLA* (L.); Sharpe, Cat. Afr. B. p. 42. no. 391.  
One specimen.

7. *ELMINIA LONGICAUDA* (Sw.); Sharpe, Cat. Afr. B. p. 42.  
no. 400.

Four specimens.

8. *BIAS MUSICUS* (V.); Sharpe, Cat. Afr. B. p. 43. no. 403.  
An adult male.

9. *PLATYSTIRA CYANEA* (Müll.); Sharpe, Cat. Afr. B. p. 44.  
no. 412.

A large series of specimens, containing both sexes and the young birds.

10. *HIRUNDO ÆTHIOPICA* (Blanf.); Sharpe, Cat. Afr. B. p. 46,  
no. 432.

The first occurrence of this Swallow in Western Africa. I have compared it with several specimens from North-eastern Africa in the British Museum, and I have no hesitation in pronouncing it to be *H. æthiopica*. It is not quite so purple as Bogos-Land skins; but this is probably due to the fact of its having been preserved in spirits.

11. *TURDUS ICTERORHYNCHUS*, Cab.

*T. pelios*, Sharpe, Cat. Afr. B. p. 21. no. 187 (nec Bp.).

Four specimens.

12. *CRINIGER SIMPLEX* (Temm.); Sharpe, Cat. Afr. B. p. 22.  
no. 197.

Four specimens.

13. *PYCNONOTUS BARBATUS* (Desf.); Sharpe, Cat. Afr. B. p. 23.  
no. 214.

Five specimens.

14. *COSSYPHA VERTICALIS*, Hartl.; Sharpe, Cat. Afr. B. p. 26.  
no. 237.

Three specimens.

15. *HYPOLAIS OPACA* (Licht.); Dresser, B. Eur. part xxviii.  
One specimen.

16. *CINNYRIS FULIGINOSUS* (Shaw).

*Nectarinia fuliginosa*, Sharpe, Cat. Afr. B. p. 39. no. 362.

One specimen.

17. *CINNYRIS SPLENDIDUS* (Shaw).

*Nectarinia splendida*, Sharpe, Cat. Afr. B. p. 38. no. 357.

One specimen.

18. *CINNYRIS VENUSTUS* (Shaw).

*Nectarinia venusta*, Sharpe, Cat. Afr. B. p. 40. no. 376.

Three specimens.

19. *PHOLIDAUGES LEUCOGASTER* (Gm.); Sharpe, Cat. Afr. B. p. 54. no. 514.

Two pairs, the males exhibiting the very extreme of the bluish and reddish purple shades prevalent in this species.

20. *HYPHANTORNIS BRACHYPTERA* (Sw.); Sharpe, Cat. Afr. B. p. 59. no. 561.

One example.

21. *HYPHANTORNIS TEXTOR* (Gm.); Sharpe, Cat. Afr. B. p. 59. no. 257.

Two adult males.

22. *NIGRITA CANICAPILLA* (Strickl.); Hartl. Orn. W.-Afr. p. 130.

The single specimen sent is more ashy and not of such a clear cinereous grey as Gaboon examples, and the spots on the wings are smaller; the shade, however, may be owing to the specimen having been preserved in spirits. The conspicuous white spots on the wings and the white rump show that the bird belongs to *N. canicapilla* and not to *N. emiliae*.

23. *EUPLECTES FRANCISCANA* (Isert); Sharpe, Cat. Afr. B. p. 62. no. 588.

Four adult males in full plumage.

24. *VIDUA PRINCIPALIS* (L.); Sharpe, Cat. Afr. B. p. 63. no. 600.

A female bird.

25. *HYPOCHERA CHALYBEATA* (Müll.); Sharpe, Cat. Afr. B. p. 64. no. 604.26. *PYRENESTES CAPITALBUS* (Temm.); Sharpe, Cat. Afr. B. p. 68. no. 650.

A female bird, doubtless belonging to this species.

27. *SPERMOSPIZA HÆMATINA* (V.); Sharpe, Cat. Afr. B. p. 68. no. 653.

One specimen, not in full plnmage.

28. *CRITHAGRA CHRYSOPYGA* (Sw.); Sharpe, Cat. Afr. B. p. 67. no. 638.

One specimen.

29. *AMADINA SHARPII*, n. sp. (Plate X.).

*Supra olivascenti-flava, tectricibus alarum dorso concoloribus; remigibus fuscis, extus dorsi colore marginatis, secundariis in-*